



The Girl Child Delhi Post

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Newsletter on the response to Girl Child issues

“I refused to go for the test...”

Rekha speaks of how she was tortured and pressurized by her family to go for a sex determination test



Rekha, resident of Tigiri

“I am a resident of Tigiri, in South district and the mother of two children. Immediately after marriage, I was pressurized by my in-laws for '*khush khabri*'. Four months later I became pregnant but soon after that I suffered internal injuries in the abdomen after being beaten by my husband. I was taken to the local nurse who asked that a ultrasound test be done before starting treatment.

“So I was taken to Kher in Aligarh district where the gynecologist told me that the foetus was in good condition. When I came out of the doctor's room my husband told me that the compounder had offered to do a sex determination test for Rs. 3,000/-. I refused to go for the test. At that moment my husband did not say anything but when we got home he pushed me off the bed and tortured me. Somehow I managed to inform my mother who took me back to Delhi.

“In the ninth month of my pregnancy I was informed by my in-laws that my husband had an accident. I went with my parents and stayed back in the hospital. There again I was badly treated by my husband and other family members. I also started to fear for my life so I used a policeman's telephone to inform my parents who came and took me back.

“On 20 May 2010, I gave birth to a son. My husband and father-in-law came to

see the child but the violence continued. Tired of the continuing violence I filed a case under Crimes against Women at the Vasant Vihar police station. The case was settled after my husband gave a written undertaking that he would not torture me. But the situation did not change. In fact it became worse. Meanwhile I became pregnant again and the pressure was again on me to go for a sex determination test but I strongly refused. As a result I was not allowed to go for regular check-ups and the violence increased.

“Consequent to this my husband brought me back to Delhi but he took away my son without informing me. In between I gave birth to a girl child. Everyone in my family was very happy but neither my husband nor my in-laws have come to see her. My husband has also said that he does not want a girl child. I have also learnt that my in-laws are arranging a second marriage for him.” □

Nobody's Children

Recent weeks have witnessed numerous incidents of cruelty against the girl child.

Last month, three-month-old Afreen died of cardiac arrest in Bengaluru after she was allegedly abused by her father. He was upset that his wife had given birth to a daughter rather than a son. Earlier, Falak an 'unwanted daughter' and victim of trafficking was battered to death in Delhi. And in Amritsar a man was arrested for allegedly strangling his wife for giving birth to a third girl.

Such incidents have become common place across the country and baby girls are being increasingly abandoned.

Recently, a new born girl was found abandoned near a drain in Vashist Park, in South West Delhi.

The question that can be asked is, why are boys being given preference above girls in every walk of life? And, more importantly, why have we not succeeded in changing the mindsets of Indian families despite a rigorous campaign by government and non government agencies and the media?

Take the case of Komal (name changed) who was found abandoned near a drain and was taken to Deen Dayal Hospital for medical observation by the Delhi Police.

When the Plan India supported LGBB team of CFAR (LGBB team) heard about the incident they immediately rushed to the hospital.

After that LGBB team was in regular touch with the doctors at Deen Dayal Hospital and a complaint was registered at Child Line (1098) about Komal.

Fortunately, she was safe and well, so she was handed over to Nirmal Chhaya, children's home for girls. She has since then been adopted by a family.

But the question we ask again is: how many Komal's have to be abandoned and how many Afreen's and Falak's must die before we see a change in the conscience of people in this country? □



Official Drive to Curb Sex Determination

Several steps were taken by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare last year after the 2011 Census showed a further drop in the sex ratio; the lowest since Independence. It reconstituted both the Central Supervisory Board (CSB) under the PNDT Act and also the National Inspection and Monitoring Committee (NIMC).

The NIMC was also empowered to go beyond inspections and oversee follow-up action by Appropriate Authorities against organizations found guilty of violations during inspections.

The government also notified important amendments in the Act, including : Amendments to Rule 11(2) of the PCPNDT Rules, 1996 to provide confiscation of unregistered machines and further punishment under the Act and amendments to regulate the use of portable ultrasound equipments and services offered by mobile genetic clinics.

Meanwhile, the National Advisory Council (NAC) has constituted a Working Group on Gender and Sex Ratio to review different aspects of the issue.

This group has prepared draft recommendations for strengthening and

modifying existing interventions and for developing a comprehensive national policy on the declining sex ratio at birth. These include:

- The strengthening of the present legal regime to prevent misuse of medical technology for sex selection and for

Over the last two months no less than 12 ultrasound machines have been sealed in the city for violating the PCPNDT Act.

“The centres need to follow all the rules and regulations that are there for running ultrasound machines under the Act - from registration of machines to maintaining records, among others. Our officials will act, wherever there’s any discrepancy and the raids will continue.” said Dr. A K Walia, State Health Minister.

The child sex ratio in the Capital has dipped in the past decade with 866 girls per 1,000 boys. The aim of the government behind cracking a whip on the diagnostic centres is to improve the skewed ratio.

*Courtesy:
“Govt cracks whip, seals 11 ultrasound machines”, Hindustan Times, 9 June 2012*

planning a legislative framework for the future

- A review of current conditional cash incentives
- A review of gender related laws and policies
- The developing of national communication and advocacy strategies for BCC

Similarly, a Sectoral Innovation Council on Child Sex Ratio has been formed under the Ministry of Women and Child Development to identify interventions which have worked and those which have not. And also to suggest innovative strategies, approaches and methods of intervention to address the decline in the Child Sex Ratio in a time bound and effective manner.

The Delhi State Appropriate Authority has also taken the following measures:

- Reconstituted the State Inspection & Monitoring Committee (SIMC)
- Reconstituted the District Advisory Committee Members of all 9 districts

But the question is: Will the constitution of various committees strengthen enforcement of the law? □

Networking and Moving Forward

“Initially I did not feel involved with the issue of birth registration. But now I have decided to sensitize at least 10-12 people every day on this issue, from among the 100-150 persons I meet each day.”

Mr. Shakti Chibbar,
Chief Functionary, Rozi Roti Adhikar

“We need an advocacy campaign that will strive for stronger enforcement of the PCPNDT Act.”

Dr. Gyanandra,
Chief Functionary, MVS

These observations were made during a capacity building workshop held on 10th May 2012 for 27 civil society organizations on the rights of girl child,



CSO partners making a presentation

declining child sex ratio and birth registration.

The presence of 10 chief functionaries at the workshop helped to reach a consensus on the issue of “missing girls”

in Delhi. The Campaign against Pre-birth Elimination of Females (CAPF) has also extended full support to the consensus reached at the workshop.

The 27 organizations that came together have decided to take forward the networking they are doing on the issue and integrate the issue of birth registration in the many rights-based activities they are conducting together. It was further decided that to begin with they will do a mapping of ultrasound clinics in their respective areas. Thirteen organizations have offered their support for conducting the mapping. The partners have also agreed to create a blog to share information and expertise and update each other on new and local developments in order to ensure a coordinated response. □



Rescuing Children in Distress

On 3rd March, Shiela, a resident of Old Nangal village and active member of the 'Sankalp' group informed Babita, a member of the LGBB team, about two orphan children who were living in Delhi Cantonment railway station and working in a dhaba; and asked if anything could be done for them.

Three days later the LGBB team met Jaideep, the elder of the two boys. He was weak and pale and looked much older than the 15 years he was supposed to be. He was unable to speak properly because of low self confidence.

He told the team that his family had been living in Old Nangal and that his father, a government employee was an alcoholic who had left the family for another woman. Soon after his mother eloped with another man and left the house while he and his siblings - an elder sister and younger brother were sleeping.

For a while his 17-year-old elder sister

who was working in a factory supported them then she got married and left. The landlord threw Jaideep and his brother Gajendra out of the house for not paying rent so they started working at a dhaba under Panka Road Flyover.

Though the dhaba owner had promised to pay them Rs. 3000/-plus food and clothes he refused to give them any money so they moved to the Railway Station, where they were given shelter by the sanitation contractor in return for sweeping and cleaning the railway station. He also revealed that he was studying in class VII and his younger brother in class VI when his mother left and that they would like to continue their studies.

Consequent to this the LGBB team registered a complaint with Child Helpline. On March 14th Monisha from Don Bosco came to Old Nangal, met the children and the sanitation

contractor and took them to the Naraina police station and registered a complaint. Medical examinations were also done of both the children before they were admitted to Don Bosco Care Home. They will soon be admitted in school.

None of this would have been possible without Shiela. She played a major role by persisting with the case and ensuring that assistance was arranged for them. □

Helpline

Child Helpline (dial 1098) is India's first 24-hour free emergency phone service for children in need of aid and assistance. The helpline responds to the emergency needs of children and also links them to services for their long-term care and rehabilitation. Child Helpline operates in 30 States and UTs, 200 cities.

Creating Awareness through *Kirtans*

Shakuntala is a member of Jagriti group, the Mahila Panchayat and a *kirtan mandali*, which performs devotional songs at community and other functions.

The group also sings songs on issues concerning women and children to educate the community on issues that range from domestic violence to the declining child sex ratio and coping mechanisms.

Shakuntala recalls how delighted she was when she saw she saw mothers of girls between (0-1 years) been felicitated at a Balika Janamotsava during the National Girl Child Day (24 September) that was organised in Old Nangal by the "Let Girls Be Born project" in partnership with Plan India in 2011.

"Soon after that a woman, who already had a daughter approached me at a *satsang* and said that a sex determination test had revealed that she was again expecting a daughter. She asked me what

she should do because she did not want another daughter. I told her about the Balika Janamotsava and various government schemes for the girl child. This convinced the woman who then went ahead and had another daughter.

"I have also convinced my 'Chacchi' who live in Ghaziabad, to stop her daughter in law from going for sex selection."

But the situation was not always so. Shakuntala remembers how she had, "Shouted at my son when he called to say his wife had delivered a second daughter. I was so unhappy I did not visit the baby in the hospital.

"However, after I became associated with the Mahila Panchayat and attended a session on gender discrimination I realized I was wrong. Now the same granddaughter is very dear to me."

This is a small initiative by her but if there



Shakuntala, resident of Geetanjali Park

are many Shakuntala in the community who could make a difference in questioning discrimination and safeguard the rights of women. We salute Shakuntala for her courage to speak up. □



Galvanizing the City through Celebrations...

The anniversary celebrations and participation of the LGBB project in other platforms has helped to advocate on the issue of the declining child sex ratio among ICDS workers and CSO partners. Anganwadi workers and civil society partners have also been supporting the cause by actively participating in these activities.

Celebrating National Girl Child Day

January 24th is celebrated across the country as National Girl Child Day. The LGBB team in partnership with the communities in South and South West district of Delhi celebrated this occasion on 25th and 31st January 2012 to motivate community participation.

To mark the occasion a rally and cultural programmes focusing on the declining child sex ratio and the rights of the girl child were organized in the intervention area. Moreover 66 mothers of new born girls were felicitated at the cultural programme.

South District

A huge rally was organized on 24th January in Sangam Vihar and Tigri where more than hundred anganwadi workers from Sangam Vihar project participated and chanted slogans on the needs to save girls.

Felicitating the mothers of newly born girls, Dr. Ahmed, of G-II Block dispensary said: "People still feel they should have at least one son. But now we need to change this mindset."

On 25th January a cultural programme was organized in Tigri to address the declining child sex ratio. Around 200 people from the community including lactating mothers, young girls, old women and men participated in the programme.

A large number of youth from the project areas participated in the programme and encouraged people to come forward and take a pledge in favour of the girl child.

After taken the pledge Manjeet Kaur,

grand-mother of a four-month-old girl child said: "We have never forced our daughter to have a son. We are happy with a girl child. This celebration has given us encouragement." Appreciating the participation by youth Phoolwati, a resident of D-block Tigri Colony said:



Sukhvinder Kaur, CDPO Mayapuri Project visits a stall

"In the past few months' changes have been noticed in this area. The situation has improved but we are still concerned about our daughters."

South West District

In Sagarpur, South West district of Delhi the occasion was celebrated by community support groups, Anganwadi workers and the LGBB team.

The observance of National Girl Child Day commenced on 18th and 24th January with the holding of rallies with support from anganwadi workers, community support groups and youth groups. This was followed by a cultural programme by young girls on 31st January at Nagar One Park, Sagarpur. Speaking on the

occasion, Sukhvinder Kaur, CDPO, Mayapuri Project said, "We have been working for others but now for the first time we have come out for ourselves. We have to collectively take up the issue of the girl child."

Rashmi Sharma, Principal, Anganwadi Centre, DCCW added, "This will not happen by merely talking about it. We first need to change our mentality."

The CDPOs of the ICDS project then felicitated 29 mothers of newly born girls in a Balika Janamotsava celebration.

Sisher, father of one-month-old girl who's Balika Janamotsava was celebrated said, "We want a healthy child. It does not matter whether it is a boy or a girl"

Sh. Praduman Rajput, MLA said, "We say girls and boys are equal but what we are seeing is a decline in the

number of girls that are being born. This will have severe consequences on society. Several programmes are being run by the government but we need to change our mindset. This is a good initiative and we need to take a pledge that we will welcome a girl child to the family as much as a boy and give her equal rights."

Pradeep, from Najafgarh, who was a participant at the function said, "This is a good initiative for the girl child. My daughter is a kabbadi champion and I want my daughter to become a sportsperson."

The programme ended with a pledge to save the girl child. □



... And rallies for inclusion

Various platforms and workshops were used to create awareness on the declining child sex ratio and other forms of gender discrimination.

Campaigning for the Safety of Women and Girls...

The Department of Women and Child Development of Delhi have taken the initiative of launching a campaign "Awaz Uthaon" to address the safety issues of women and girls.

Mission Convergence is the implementing agency of the campaign, which envisages the formation of women's collectives at the grassroots level to support women in distress, including situations of sexual harassment/assault and rape. Fifteen Gender Resource Centres (GRCs) are involved in the pilot phase of the campaign which aims at making the community responsible for creating a safe

environment for women and girls.

The South West district team participated in the 'Awaz Uthaon' public meeting organized by one of the CSO partners Mahila Vikas Sansthan (MVS), at Mayapuri on 25th March 2012.

The team set up a stall at the meeting and the youth group performed a street play. The guests at the public meeting also addressed the issue of the declining child sex ratio.

The Mahila Vikas Sansthan has been working closely with the LGBB programme and linked it to the Awaz



Youth group perform at the function

Uthaon campaign in its newsletter 'Mahila Darpan'. □

...and to end Sex Determination

Around 50 women including representatives of community based organisations namely Mobile Creches, Basti Vikas Samiti, Dadi of India and anganwadi workers of Mayapuri project took a pledge to protect the rights of women and girl child, stop sex determination and create awareness on the declining child sex ratio in their respective areas.

They took the pledge at a *Holika Dehan Samaroh* organized at Kirbi Place, on 7th March, 2012.



Women take the pledge at Holika Dehan

"The International Women's Day celebration held in Jherara village has helped women to come out and speak. After the celebration women came to me and said that they had been facing violence and were pressurized to go for sex determination by their husband and families." said Ms. Bindra, of Dadi of India.

"I have decided to work on the issue of declining child sex ratio after listening to these women, she added." □

An 'Eighth Oath' for the Girl Child

In South district, the Samuhik Vivah was organized by a charitable trust Kanyadan Mahadan at the Virat Cinema Hall ground, on 23rd February. 52 couples belonging to different castes and religions from Delhi and even Rajasthan were married at this function. The team approached the organizing committee and arranged for an Athava Fera (eighth oath) - Not to opt for sex determination and respect for the girl child - to be administered to the couples.

Praveen Bansal, Treasurer, Organising Committee, Kanyadan Mahadan, said that, "Since both Hindus and Muslims couples are going to be married at the function the 'Athava Fera' can only be taken after the marriage."

Jagpraveesh Kumar, son of former M.P. Sajjan Kumar, said: "This was a good initiative and it will have an impact."

Such platforms have been useful for sensitizing the larger community. □

मां मुझे पहचान (कविता)

मां मुझे पहचान,
मैं हूँ एक नन्ही सी जान, मैं हूँ ईश्वर का वरदान।
कोख में हूँ मैं सीना तान, कल देखूंगी मैं ये जहां।
पर अगले ही पल मैं हूँ हैरान, कि तू कोख
कर रही है वीरान।
तू क्यों बन रही है हैवान, नारी ही है घर की शान।
कन्या भ्रूण हत्या का सुन आह्वान, नारी है
तू नारी का रख सम्मान।
अब तो तू यह लेना ठान, वरना तू यह लेना जान
तुझसे छिन जायेगा, मां बनने का यह सम्मान।

स्नेहलता,
फील्ड कॉऑर्डिनेटर



Laadli Scheme: Has it worked?

Excerpts of a study by Ms. Bijaylaxmi Nanda, Associate Prof., Miranda House, Delhi University

Though the governments of Delhi and Haryana contend that the conditional cash transfer (CCT) Laadli Scheme, launched in 2008 to eradicate sex selective eliminations, promote the cause of girl-child education and enhance the status of the girl child especially within poor families, has resulted in a turnaround in the declining sex ratio; demographers, activists working in the

eliminations is an upper-class, upper caste practice linked to higher levels of education in women. A study by Bhat and Xavier (2007) shows that education and prosperity facilitate knowledge of, access to, and the use of technology for sex selection. Another study based on interviews of 300 beneficiaries of the scheme in Delhi revealed that the aspiration for upward mobility amongst

because of the scheme; the scheme is welcome because the girl-child is a liability."

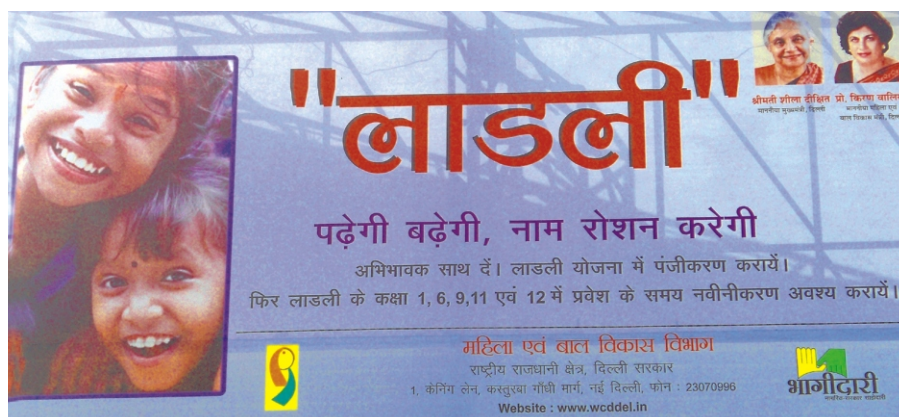
Three: Beneficiaries were not forthcoming on whether sex selection and sex selective eliminations would be considered for a third pregnancy probably because families with two daughters did not consider their families as complete without sons. While they did not openly share this belief, it was implicit in their silence that a third pregnancy could be subjected to the practice of sex determination and sex selective eliminations. So the scheme, while preventing sex selective eliminations to some extent does not address the core issues of gender discrimination.

Four: Though the scheme is based on the premise that the girl-child is considered an economic liability because of dowry, the manner and method of accessing the scheme is reinforcing the dowry system. The money can be access when the girl is 18, which is the legal age to marry for girls. Group discussions with beneficiaries in Gurgoan, Haryana and Delhi revealed that the majority of them wanted to use the money for their daughter's marriage. And 60 percent of the girls in the group discussion said that they would like to use the money for their own marriage. According to Sabu George's findings, the incentive money itself is sometimes used for dowry.

Five: The scheme's attempt at addressing school enrolment and retaining school dropouts has also escaped the attention of the beneficiaries. Conditional cash transfers are based on the principles of community involvement and co-responsibility in which entitlements offered by the programme requires certain obligations have to be discharged by the two parties. The beneficiaries of the Laadli scheme had very little or no awareness of the co-responsibility of completing their daughters education.

While the condition was also imposed on the beneficiaries that they would be

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field and middle level functionaries who are in-charge of implementation of the scheme are saying that while the sex ratio has not turned around and that it is the registration of girls at birth that has increased. This is because registration of births, even of non-institutional delivery, is mandatory for accessing the scheme.

Meanwhile a study that was carried out between 2009-11 in two phases to analyze the objectives of the scheme and understand whether they have been achieved has revealed several other contradictions.

One: The scheme is intended for poor families. So the monetary incentives offered by the state to families to preserve and raise their children, as also the income level limit imposed for a family's eligibility are based on the assumption that poverty is the chief underlying cause of the problem. But the poor are not necessarily guilty when it comes to daughter aversion.

Studies have shown that sex selective

the poor has made them adopt the ways and means of the well to do when it comes to sex selective eliminations. Recent studies by Mary John and others (2009) also show that sex selective eliminations is being practiced even among the poor and scheduled castes who had earlier been egalitarian, with no reported cases of sex determination, where women had greater mobility and occupational value, and dowry was unheard of because of aspirations of upward mobility.

Two: When the community was asked if the Laadli Scheme had brought a change in the practice, the majority felt that in the case of the second born daughter, families weight the options before them because the scheme offers Rs. 1 lakh for the daughter against at least Rs. 3500 to abort the foetus so they decide to keep the daughter. Geetika Sharma, Addl. Director in-charge of the Laadli Scheme in Delhi added that, "In the context of poor families it is sheer economics that is at work. The girl child is not welcome



“Every girl child must be ensured her rights”

- Ms. Monique Van't Hek,
National Director, Plan International

On March 16th, 2012, a five member delegation from Plan International, led by Ms. Monique Van't Hek, National Director, Plan International, visited some of the initiatives that have been undertaken by Plan, in India, in partnership with Centre for Advocacy and Research under the “Let Girls Be Born” project.

The team was welcomed with traditional *tilak* and the pinning of rosettes made by the children in the community. They then visited the Women Support Groups-Sankalp and Jagriti - in Sagarpur and Nagal Raya in South West district.

Members from these groups shared their experience with the Project including: their association with its activities and how they were benefitting from it and taking the programme forward.

Sudha Tiwari from 'Jagriti' told the visitors that their group comprised of women from the age of 25-55 and included housewives, members of the Mahila Panchayats, which is an initiative focusing on empowering women and members of self help groups and ASHAs

Kiran Sharma from 'Sankalp' meanwhile spoke of the benefits of associating with the programme.

She added that participation in the activities of the programme had helped to raise awareness among women, improve their sense of self esteem and created spaces from where they could speak up on the issue of sex determination.

Members of the group also spoke of the cases in which they had successfully persuaded women from going for sex determination, despite pressure from their families.

This prompted Ms. Van't Hek to ask the group how they knew if a woman was going to opt for sex determination.

Pushpa and Sudha Tiwari, both ASHAs replied, “We work as ASHAs and work closely with pregnant women and



A Women's group interacts with National Director Plan International

motivate them to opt for institutional delivery. While doing so we develop bond with these women and they start sharing their personal problems with us. Many a times they talk about the pressure on the to opt for sex determination against their wishes.”

Shakuntala from 'Jagriti' added, “We are also part of Mahila Panchayats and *Kirtan Mandalis*. So women approach us. Sometimes during meetings with pregnant woman we also come to know about her concerns. It all starts from the neighborhood.”

The Director was also shown the communication tools used to sensitize the community such as the quarterly newsletter, the posters developed by children and photographs showing community participation in various activities under the project.

A memento was presented to the Director in which women had made sketches of their dreams for the girl child. Other Plan team members had also added their dreams to the card. □

...Laadli Scheme

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rejected if they failed in class 10th, there was no reciprocal obligation on the part of the teachers or the institution or the state to provide them with better levels of education.

Six: The education received by the poor does not bring rewards in terms of economic returns. On the contrary, they experience long periods of unemployment and become vulnerable to discrimination in terms of work and wages. Hemlata a beneficiary of the scheme who was part of the group discussion was enrolled in a correspondence course to pursue a BA programme. She was interested in a law degree but was not aware of how to do so. The design of the programmes did not serve to advance women's economic security or autonomy. There was little in the way of training for the job market, aptitude testing or child care provisions later in their lives if they wanted to study, train or work. □



Women come Together to Protect the Girl Child



Meeting of a community support group

Under the “Let Girls Be Born” (LGBB) project, CFAR team has facilitated the evolution and formation of 26 community based support groups of women, youth and young girls in our intervention areas in South and South West district. Among them 17 are women's group and 9 are youth and adolescent girls groups.

The members of the women groups are in the age group of 25-55. Many of these women belong to Mahila Panchayats, SHGs and kirtan mandalis (spiritual groups) and include ASHAs and anganwadi workers. What cements the groups is the fact that they have experienced violence in their lives and are anxious to know how to deal with it.

Once they became part of the group, they find solace in each other and realize that they are not alone. This in turn helps them to understand the issues that deprive them of their rights and make them second class citizens. Today when they look back they realize that sex determination is a reflection of their low status and it is not

just a rejection of the girl child but of womanhood. This realization has motivated them to persuade other women to not go for sex determination and recognize the power of women.

The activities carried out under the project have helped to raise their level of knowledge, strengthen their self-esteem and personhood

and release their emotions, anger and frustrations.

These women, like any peer educator or community volunteers, have the advantage of experiential insight and wisdom. Having been through the ordeal by fire they have developed the grit and determination to work for the cause of women's empowerment and liberation from practices such as sex determination and sex selection. By advancing the project they realize they are working for the betterment of the community.

Two such groups are 'Sankalp (vow)' and 'Jagriti' (Awakening) in Nangal Raya and Geetanjali Park in South West Delhi. These groups have pledged to save the girl child.



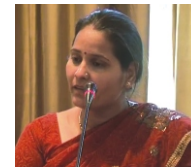
Kiran Sharma from Sankalp said,

“I am a housewife and member of the 'Sankalp' group. Some of our members

have been working with the Mahila Panchayat and handled cases relating to domestic violence. But participation in the activities under the project has helped us to understand the declining child sex ratio issue and the fact that their numbers are declining in Delhi and in our district.

“We have also come to know about its impact on society. There are members in the group who were less victimized only after giving birth to a male child and for this they were forced to go for sex determination.

“This made us realize that sex determination is linked to our status as women. This group has given us a platform from where we can speak and create awareness on the issue of girl child.”



Sudha Tiwari from Jagriti added,

“I am an ASHA worker in Gali No. 7 and 8 of Geetanjali Park and also a

member of the 'Jagriti' group. Under ASHA we have to work with a population of 2000. We work closely with pregnant women and motivate them to opt for institutional delivery.

We also ensure that a pregnant woman receives three ANC check-ups and the necessary vaccinations. In the process we become close to pregnant women and they share their personal problem with us. Many a time we do not have solutions.

This platform has helped me to understand issues and now I work in a much better way. Along with my work I also sensitize my community about the ill-effect of sex determination and sex selection” □

Let Girls Be Born
A Plan India Initiative



Because
I am a Girl



Centre for
Advocacy and
Research

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